

## CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN TERM 2020/21

As a response to the COVID-19 Pandemic we had to adapt and reshape our curriculum delivery to ensure the safety of our whole school community. Over the coming months, we will continue to work hard to provide a broad and engaging curriculum and review the impact of our preventative and protective measures on pupils' learning.

The autumn term focus will be on welcoming back and settling in existing and new pupils, completing assessments and re-engaging pupils in school life and learning. We will make sure that the curriculum will include teaching pupils about safety and new routines, such as more frequent handwashing, whilst strengthening relationships.

We are not looking to reintroduce off-site visits and food technology sessions during the autumn term. Practical woodworking sessions for KS4 and Sixth Form pupils will start after the October half term break. All pupils will participate in the PE curriculum and will have access to the PE hall. We have increased cleaning routines for shared rooms and resources and we keep our transitions across bubbles as safe as possible i.e. transitioning through outside spaces rather than the school, keeping to one side of the corridors where possible. Pupils will access Topic sessions and assemblies in their own classrooms. We will continue to organise and provide school-wide events to enrich pupils' individual curriculum. When planning these activities, teachers will consider safety measures to minimise the risk of the spread of infection. For example, each class is provided with their own resources to use within class.

Our annual Christmas production will run in a different format this year. Nevertheless, we are very excited to be planning and preparing a virtual magical experience. We hope to record each class' performance and make a short film that we can share with families. Memos for permissions will be sent out over the coming weeks.

### KEY DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

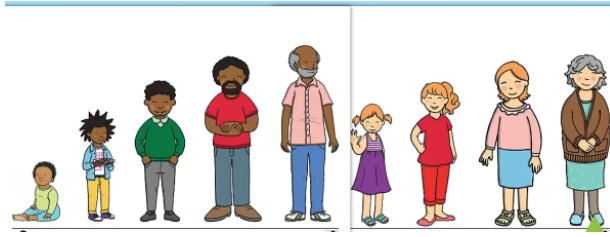
AUTUMN TERM 2020
2-3 September – INSET Days
28 September – 2 October – Healthy Eating Week
12 – 16 October – History Week: Prehistoric Ages & Age of the Dinosaurs
23 October – Last Day of Half Term: Pupils finish at 2pm
2 November – INSET DAY
3 November – Start of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Half Term: Pupils return
2 – 6 November – Poppy Appeal
9 – 13 November – Anti-Bullying Week
13 November – Children in Need
18 December – Last Day of Term: Pupils finish at 2pm

### TOPIC CURRICULUM (KS1 TO KS4):

This term we will be introduced to our new classes, friends and teachers in our class. We will be saying hello to our new friends and learning the names of our new friends and teachers. It will be important to know where lots of things go in the classroom so we are more independent, we will be learning to ask for items and help if we need it, and to tidy away when we are finished. We will be doing lots of turn taking activities to get to know our friends, and show that we can follow the rules set in the classroom. The RE focus is 'what makes a place special?' and we will be focusing on

thinking about why school can be special for us, and other places that make us happy. We are excited to get our class looking really cool ready for the new school year and to get ready to learn all the new things our teachers have planned for us!

The second part of this term is all about our changing bodies. We will look at what happens when we grow up from a baby to an adult and have a go at sequencing the life cycle as well as other events in our lives. We will learn the names of the parts of our body and look for the differences in our bodies when we are babies, children, teenagers and adults. For our RE focus we will also be asking 'why do we give presents at Christmas?', we look at what we might like, and think about what some of our family might like from us. We will also look for ways we can say thank you at home and in school.



## PE (KS1-4)

The PE focus for the first half term is gymnastics. All PE sessions are designed to include warm up and cool down activities alongside the main focus of the session. The warm up activities usually consist of games/exercises to increase heart rate and body temperature, and also stretching exercises for the main muscle groups. During the cool down activities, pupils will practise yoga poses, stretches and games with the parachutes.

The core part of each session, pupils will be taking part in safe, educational and fun activities that develop and improve different gymnastics skills such as balancing. Pupils will also learn simple stretches to move their bodies and yoga poses. Coordination skills will be developed through exploring different ways of moving around the PE hall, including walking, running, jumping and skipping.



The second half term will focus on music and movement. Pupils will be learning to move to the beat of the music and perform dance moves.

## SCHOOL COUNCIL



School Council members are ready to continue with their work this school year. As we're likely to welcome few new members, we'll remind everyone during our first meeting about the role of the School Council and how the members contribute to the work of the council. To ensure everyone's safety and not crossing across bubbles, we plan to run the meeting virtually via Teams. We are also planning to collaborate closely with our Charity of the Year, the WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature). Currently we are in the process of arranging some workshops for our pupils with representatives from the charity. Moreover, we are planning to meet with the School Safeguarding Governor, Laura Craven, before writing the Anti-bullying Policy for pupils – again, this meeting will possibly take place via Teams. The autumn term sounds busy already!

## ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies will be taking place weekly in each class. Assembly themes will include grandparents' day, British Food Day, school library month, Bonfire night and fireworks safety and seasonal changes amongst others. Pupils will be learning about the life and work of Ludwig van Beethoven to mark the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth in December. Our assembly on first aid will provide opportunity to practise putting on bandages and plasters and also learning about emergency services.

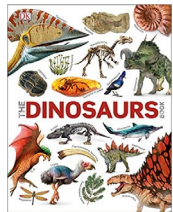


## WIDER COMMUNITY & CHARITY EVENTS

### **Themed Days and Events:**

During Autumn Term, there are lots of events happening across the school.

At the end of September, we kicked off with Healthy Eating Week. This was a success, the pupils learnt about what it means to eat and live healthily. Each day consisted of a different activity such as, creating a fun poster explaining how to live healthy, pinning the food to the right food group and painting fruit and vegetables with bright colours. In October

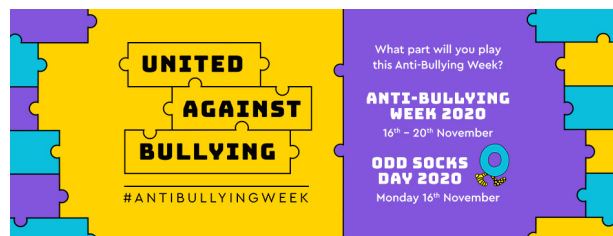


and November, we will be having History Week, which focuses on prehistoric ages and dinosaurs. The pupils will learn about dinosaurs, prehistoric animals and what life was like during this time. Activities will include creating cave paintings, salt dough fossils, silhouette painting of Stonehenge and making play dough bones. We will support the Poppy Appeal again this year, for pupils to raise money to commemorate Remembrance Day. The school will also be collecting money for Children in Need, there will be some different activities for the pupils to help raise money.

### **Anti-Bullying Week:**

This year's theme for Anti-bullying week is "United Against Bullying".

After an annual odd socks day on the Monday, in which pupils and staff are invited to wear odd socks for the day to encourage



people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality, the pupils will be invited to take part in some fun activities throughout the week in their class groups related to being kind, sharing, and working together to make a difference and reduce bullying. Class assemblies will also be available to the pupils and the pupils will have opportunities to contribute to classroom displays indicating their likes and dislikes to show we are all different and it's good to differ in our opinions and choices in life.

There is a puzzle theme which fits in nicely with Jigsaw School, claiming "we are all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we are united against bullying".

More information on the theme of the week and some of the activities available can be found at:

[www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk)



## ASDAN

### KS4 ASDAN

KS4 pupils will complete their ASDAN Transition Challenge activities through cross-curricular links with other subjects.

During the autumn term the main focus will remain on completion of outstanding modules in preparation for the External Moderation for the Year 11 pupils in summer term. Year 10 pupils will have the opportunity to engage in work towards their award for the first time and we are sure they will find it very exciting. Pupils will be completing activities for various modules while participating in Themed Weeks and Events, fundraising for Poppy Appeal and Children in Need. One of the highlights will be the Christmas Production; participation in it will earn a sign off for pupils completing the Feeling Good, Expressive Arts module.

### SIXTH FORM NEWS

This term our pupils will be taking part in computing sessions as part of their Jigsaw College focus. Pupils will explore and learn about different ICT based tools and practice creating a variety of outcomes including animation, music videos and code. There will be a strong focus on the importance of internet safety and how to stay safe online. Pupils will be able to try using different ICT equipment and applications.

We will also be continuing our Friday morning yoga sessions with Mark. Yoga with Mark is one of the most popular sessions of the whole week with both pupils and staff really looking forward to them! Pupils will practice relaxation techniques, warming up, energy building, balance, whole body exercises, cool downs and more.

Pupils will also be working outside in our garden areas practicing different horticulture-based skills such as growing and caring for different plants, keeping the garden areas tidy and safety in the garden. Pupils will practice growing plants and vegetables suitable to the time of year such as tomatoes, cress, marigolds and zinnia.

We are looking forward to an exciting new academic year and term at Jigsaw!

